

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 SY-05 SCCT-01 USSS-00 CAB-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00

L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /056 R

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APPROVED BY ARA/LA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER

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P 312123Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PORS, EAIR

SUBJECT: MIAMI AIRPORT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

REFERENCE: NASSAU 2150

1. AIRPORT SECURITY MEASURES FALL UNDER PART 107 OF FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATIONS (14 CFR). UNDER THESE REGULATIONS, PASSENGER SCREENING IS CONDUCTED UNDER AIR CARRIERS' RESPONSIBILITIES. AIRPORT OPERATORS PROVIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AS BACKUP TO SCREENING PROCESS.

2. DEPTOFF SPOKE TO ASSISTANT CHIEF OF SECURITY AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. SECURITY OFFICER ADVISED THAT AIRPORT HAS ONE OFFICER ON DUTY AT SCREENING POINT. ACTUAL PASSENGER SCREENING IS CONDUCTED BY THE GENERAL PATROL COMPANY, UNDER BAHAMASAIR CONTRACT (REPEAT BAHAMASAIR CONTRACT.)

3. SECURITY OFFICER FURTHER STATED THAT SCREENING

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AGENTS WERE ALMOST CERTAINLY CUBANS, NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS,

BUT THAT THEY ARE NOT TYPES LIKELY TO HOLD OR EXPRESS GRUDGES OR PREJUDICES. SECURITY OFFICER PROMISED TO ATTEMPT TO ASSIST IN RECTIFYING SITUATION THROUGH HIS CONTACTS IN GENERAL PATROL. CUBANS MAY OR MAY NOT BE

SHIFTED TO OTHER FLIGHTS, BUT WE POINTED OUT SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED.

4. USE OF X-RAY EQUIPMENT IS ENTIRELY BAHAMASAIR'S CHOICE. BAHAMASAIR'S STATION MANAGER IN MIAMI, TOM HUGHES, TOLD US THAT THEY NORMALLY USE X-RAY EQUIPMENT OWNED BY NATIONAL AIRLINES. THIS EQUIPMENT WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN MAYNARD CAME THROUGH MIAMI BECAUSE THE LATTER COMPANY WAS ON STRIKE. HUGHES ALSO COMMENTED THAT SEARCH PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN TIGHTENED SINCE BOMB WAS FOUND ON BAHAMASAIR AIRCRAFT, BUT THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE PASSENGERS HAVE NOT BEEN ABUSED DURING SECURITY CHECKS. HUGHES CLAIMS TO BE A PERSONAL FRIEND OF MAYNARD WHOM HE INTENDS TO CONTACT DIRECTLY TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION.

5. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO INFORM MAYNARD OF ABOVE AND OF HUGHES' INTENTION TO CONTACT HIM PERSONALLY. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRPORTS, SECURITY CONTROLS, AIR SAFETY REGULATIONS, MIAMI
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE305575
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKGORDON/ARA/CAR:GPALAZZOLO:DG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750451-1038
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975123/aaaaacjd.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NASSAU 2150
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <18 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MIAMI AIRPORT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS
TAGS: PORS, EAIR, BF, US
To: NASSAU
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006